Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT L 00191 021647Z ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 DHA-02 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 IO-13 PRS-01 /074 W
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P R 021110Z MAR 77 FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6501 INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA AMEMBASSY LONDON AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

CONFIDENTIAL PORT LOUIS 0191

E.O; 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR OAU UG MP

SUBJECT: RAMGOOLAM SENDS AMIN TELEGRAM ABOUT SITUATION IN UGANDA

REF: PORT LOUIS 179 (NTTAL)

1. L'EXPRESS OF FEBRUARY 28 REPORTED THAT PRIME MINISTER RAMGOOLAM HAD SENT A TELEGRAM TO IDI AMIN BUT IT REMAINS UNCLEAR WHAT ITS SUBJECT WAS OR WHEN IT WAS SENT. RAMGOOLAM CONFIRMED TO THE PAPER THAT HE HAD SENT A TELEGRAM BUT HE DID NOT MAKE THE TEXT AVAILABLE NOR DESCRIBE ITS CONTENTS. ALL HE WOULD SAY WAS: "I HOPE THAT THIS WHOLE AFFAIR WILL HAVE A HAPPY ENDING. I ASKED THAT EVERYTHING BE DO E IN THE INTEREST OF AFRICA AND WITH A GREAT DEAL OF DILIGENCE. THE OAU WILL ALSO ACT FROM ITS SIDE." ASKED BY THE PAPER WHETHER A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE OAU WOULD BE CALLED TO DEAL WITH THE SITUATION IN UGANDA, RAMGOOLAM SAID NO SUCH MEETING WOULD BE CALLED. "THESE MATTERS ARE NOT HANDLED IN THIS

MANNER," HE SAID.

2. IN ITS STORY L'EXPRESS MADE THE ASSUMPTION THAT RAM'S CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PORT L 00191 021647Z

MESSAGE CONCERNED THE INTERNAL SITUATION IN UGANDA AND THE KILLING OF ARCHBISHOP LUWUM. THE PAPER WENT ON TO COMMENT THAT YOUNG POLITICIANS OF THE LABOR PARTY ARE UNHAPPY OVER RAM'S SILENCE ON UGANDAIAND HAVE BEEN PRESSURING H M TO SPEAK OUT. THE SMALL REPUBLICAC CENTER PARTY HAS ALSO PROTESTED HIS SILENCE, ACCORDING TO L'EXPRESS, IN AN OPEN LETTER DEMANDING HE MAKE A STATEMENT CONDEMNING AMIN'S ATRICITIES AND PROPOSING ACTION TO PUT AN END

TO THEM.

3. COMMENT: IT IS UNCLEAR WHEN RAMGOOLAM SENT THE TELEGRAM TO AMIN, AND WHETHER IT MAY HAVE BEEN STIMULATED BY OUT APPROACH (REFTTEL) ON FEBRUARY 26. IF THE MESSAGE DID REFER TO THE SITUATION OF THE AMERICANS IN UGANDA AND WAS SENT IN RESPONSE TO OUR APPROACH, THE PRIME MINISTER WOULD MOST LIKELY WANT TO KEEP THIS OUT OF THE PRESS.

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Message Attributes

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Subject: RAMGOOLAM SENDS AMIN TELEGRAM ABOUT SITUATION IN UGANDA TAGS: PFOR, CASC, UG, MP, OAU, (RAMGOOLAM, SEEWOOSAGAR), (AMIN DADA, IDI)

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